

Briefly Told

"The boy voice is now universally recognized as the true voice for soprano purposes."—Canon Monsignor Raffaele Casimiro Casimiri.

A "personal" in the London Times runs thus: "Would anyone like to subscribe to my wedding? I have a girl and nothing else. I work hard, but unless miracles happen marriage is hopeless. Will anyone help a busted warrior?"

A British statesman proposes that every mother of five or more children be permitted to go to a Labor Exchange and commandeer a servant.

The list of prominent lawyers who neglected to make wills, made them wrongly, or altered them without attesting the alterations, and thus have made more work for lawyers and courts, is being enlarged every month.

A pair of boots costs a year's salary in Soviet Russia.

"The man in the street," as a phrase, originated in 1831.

The first use of the word "struck" or "strike" to indicate labor trouble is found in the Annual Register of 1768—"This day the hatters struck and refused to work till their wages are raised."

Miss Daisy Ashford really did write: "The Young Visitors," and not James M. Barrie, as the public supposed. The book was really written in Miss Ashford's childhood, and she does not intend to write another. She has appeared in readings from the book for charitable objects, and is soon to be married.

There are no street cars, automobiles or other vehicles in Venice—not a hoof or a wheel to be seen from one end of the city to the other. This restriction of transport methods has prevented Venice changing with the centuries.

"If anybody would give the Germans a promise of restoration to a very modest degree of the individual comfort which they had up to August, 1914, the people as a whole would scrap their new-found so-called liberties, their revolution and republic and all the rest of it, and follow the new leader."—Berlin Correspondent, London Times.

"While I would not go so far as to agree that force is no remedy, I do say that force is no peacemaker."—Lord Robert Cecil.

"The head should always be held sacred," said a magistrate hearing the case against a teacher who was accused of boxing a boy's ears.

The text-book business is enjoying a revival, especially in the history division, because of the revisions made necessary by the war.

Norway is turning from German culture to French, English and American, says Johan Bojer, distinguished Norwegian author.

America's first cotton exportation was made in 1778. It consisted of one bag of cotton consigned from Charleston, S. C. to London, England.

The record life of an aeroplane is that of one used in Holland on active service for two years without repair of any kind.

The driest place in the world is the region between the two lower falls of the Nile. Rain has never been known to fall there.

"Siamese twins" living at Washington have been adjudged to be "two persons" by the census bureau. The twins are natives of the Philippines and were brought to this country for the purpose of an operation. They are joined back to back, near the shoulders.

The highest paid mayor in the United States is the mayor of Chicago.

Five hundred thousand people died from influenza during the epidemic in this country, according to estimates of the United States Public Health Department.

Canada complains that her Northwest is becoming the mecca of "Reds" who are fleeing from government activity in the United States.

The Jews of Toronto, Canada, have suffered very slightly from the smallpox which has visited that city.

"A column twenty men abreast, marching sixty days—sixty long days and sixty nights—that would be the parade of the dead who fell in the Great War on the side of the Allies."—The Etude.

Lady Astor was called to order in the British House of Commons for talking with another member. She hurried across to the bar where greater liberty is permitted, laughed and then waved her hand at the Speaker.

Pirates who prey on tramp vessels and who live among the small tropical islands off the Mexican Pacific coast have become so bold that Carranza has dispatched a naval expedition to rout them.

"Too much talk and too little work," is the trouble with Europe, says an American writer who has just returned.

"We have been waiting for this for twelve hundred years," declared M. Stamboulinski, only representative of Bulgaria, as he placed his signature to the Peace Treaty at Paris.

Marriage of a Japanese Prince or Princess with a foreigner is not permitted.

Three hundred wooden ships of the United States, built to combat the submarine campaign, are to be sold to foreign countries. The ships are 3,500 tons each. The United States Shipping Board expects to realize about \$40,000,000 by the sale.

A coffee bean containing no caffeine has been discovered growing in Madagascar.

"It is an economic benefit if a machine wears out under extreme production, but it is an uneconomic disadvantage if men and women are worn out with long hours," says Lord Leverhulme, one of the largest employers of labor in the world.

Father Dandurand, 100 years of age, is the oldest Catholic priest in the world. He was born in Quebec in 1819, and resides in Winnipeg, Canada, where he went by wagon train while a boy.

Many Chinese theaters do not charge admission, their operating expenses being obtained from the sale of refreshments of various kinds.

"Selfishness is gripping the throats of Capital and Labor in their mad efforts, one to get the better of the other; we are a breeding ground here in America where thousands of human beings are born into anarchy. Bolshevism was born in America; it took America to produce a Trotsky. The great majority of Bolsheviks in America were simple-minded Russian folks who left Russia because they thought us a land where 'all people are born free and equal.' We cannot maintain the Constitution unless both the Red flag and the profiteers' black flag are destroyed."—Congressman Welty.

A new star, too dim to be seen by the naked eye, has been discovered by the Harvard University. Only nine new stars were discovered between 1586 and 1886. Since then 25 new stars have been located, 18 of which were discovered by the Harvard Observatory. This discovery is the thirty-fifth of its kind in the history of astronomy.

"If America will not take any leading part in the League, her assistance in restoring the peace of the world will be at an end. She will then leave Europe to 'stew in her own juice.' The League, having its inspiration chiefly in the United States and being based on the faith that America would do her part, will be deprived of its driving power. There will be nothing else than to return to the old system of alliances. If America rejects the Peace Treaty the world will fall back on its own resources with a justifiable feeling of resentment and disappointment, if not despair."—London Review of Reviews.

"In Galicia the problem of emigration continues to be a serious preoccupation. The fieldworkers gather up their implements, say farewell to the fields they have sown and to their homes, and seek adventures in America. Whole families, whole villages, depart in this way. And the land and the fields remain more abandoned, more sad and more desolate than ever and will soon be a desert. . . . The field workers do not seek wealth; they merely are anxious to find the means to live, a thing which is impossible in their own country. The chief advantage we gained from our neutrality, from having folded our arms face to face with the trouble, is just that of having not wasted our men. It is for this reason that we must see to it that our men do not go away; otherwise we shall be in the condition of those countries who have fought—and without a laurel-wreath of victory."—Madrid Tribuna, Spain.

The Department of Agriculture states that Americans are eating eight per cent less meat than they ate 20 years ago.

America raises a half bushel of peaches for every man, woman and child. Of these, about 30,000,000 bushels were marketed and 20,000,000 bushels remain on the farms.

Of the 8,000,000 automobiles in the world, 6,000,000 are in the United States.

China has borrowed \$45,000,000 for airplane construction. It will be used to aid in establishing a basis for airplane development in that country.

Sweet potatoes are a staple food in China, being as commonly used there as the Irish variety in America. Few localities in China do not raise them.

A child with twelve fingers has been born in Brooklyn, an extra finger on each hand.

"The ascent of Vesuvius sounds formidable but actually it is ridiculously easy. You take the train to the foot of the mountain, change to a 'rack-railway' train, and climb to the Hermitage Hotel well up on the mountain side, change again into a cable car which pulls you up near the summit cone, where five minutes' easy walk will bring you to the lip of the crater, where you look down into the billowy smoke and clouds of steam."—The London Observer.

Belgium has prohibited the manufacture or importation or sale of cocaine, opium, morphine and heroin.

D'Annunzio's cashier has deserted him, accompanied by 1,000,000 francs.

Madame Patti left an estate of more than one-half million dollars.

A spaniel dog of Glasgow sold to a town 150 miles from home returned in two days.

An English doctor advises how to prevent illness from resulting fatally. "Buy a doctor's thermometer. It will save you an attack of pneumonia. Your temperature is 98 degrees normal. If 99 degrees you are a bit out of sorts, but no grave matter. If 100 degrees, on no account go to business. If 101 degrees, you must never shoulder the responsibility; send for a doctor at once. Learn how to take your temperature and avoid an early grave."

"Although the mob force of Italy may remain with D'Annunzio, Italians of substance are turning against him and his power for mischief is rapidly nearing the end. His restless spirit of adventure has tired the Italians."—The Newcastle Weekly Chronicle.

English fishermen are already fishing in the areas of the North Sea where the mines have not been removed. Several fatalities have occurred and the Admiralty is taking steps to prohibit the fisher boats from endangering the lives of the crew.

The Aquitania, sister ship of the Lusitania, was transformed into an armed transport three days after the declaration of war by England. The vessel carried 30,000 English troops to the Dardanelles; was the temporary home, as a hospital ship, of 25,000 soldiers, carrying wounded men for two years. When America entered the war the Aquitania was again refitted for dangerous service, and in nine transatlantic trips she transported 60,000 Americans and their field equipment without a mishap. The Aquitania has brought home 120,000 Americans since the armistice. She boasts of ranking among the first few vessels accomplishing extraordinary service during the war.

Grand Pré, a little village of Nova Scotia, scene of "Evangeline," will be retained in all its quaintness by the Canadian Government as a National Park.

New Yorkers are paying \$1.25 a pound for venison, and \$3 a pair for guinea hens.

England's public executioners, the hangmen, have appealed to the House of Commons for more pay. Hangmen have been deprived of one source of income, since they are no longer allowed to sell the rope with which criminals are hanged to curiosity collectors.

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